

THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF MANY

How TAX DOLLARS BUY CITY SERVICES

HIGH-QUALITY CITY SERVICES REMAIN REASONABLY PRICED FOR BLOOMINGTON RESIDENTS

RESIDENTS RECEIVE A VARIETY OF CITY services at an affordable price. The cost of City services in 2006 for the owner of a median-priced, single-family home in Bloomington with an assessor’s market value of \$231,200 is \$60.50 per month. Utilities remain competitively priced in 2006. The value received from City services compares favorably to charges for other monthly bills.

Net property tax cost is obtained by subtracting all revenue sources other than the property tax from departmental expenditures. Water and sewer utilities are fee-based.

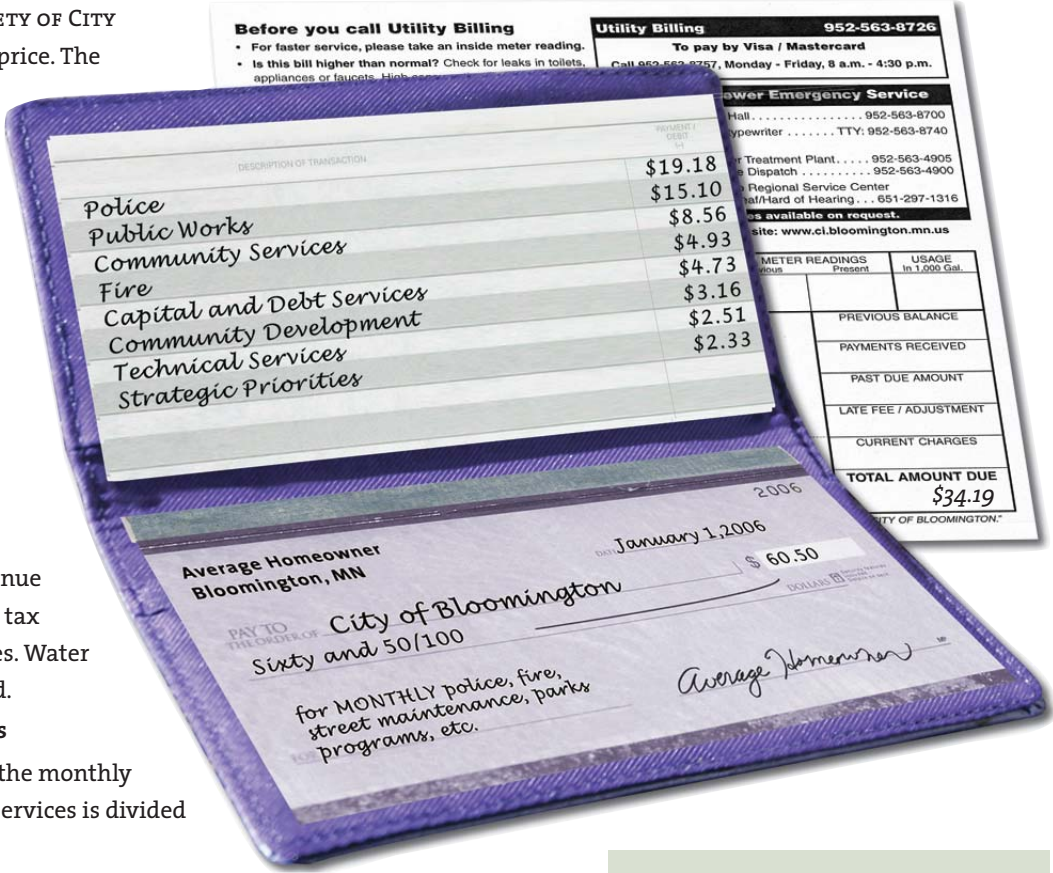
Property tax-supported services

The checkbook shows how the monthly cost of property tax-supported services is divided among City departments.

Monthly cost of utilities

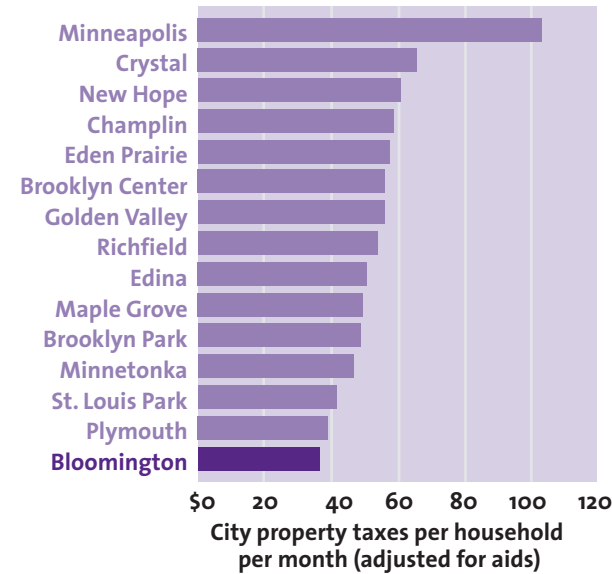
Based on an average usage of 7,500 gallons per month, monthly cost of utilities for a home in Bloomington is \$34.19 in 2006. Services include water, sewer, stormwater and solid waste. See above illustration.

Note: Water bills are mailed bimonthly and average \$68.38 per bill.



BLOOMINGTON RANKS WELL IN HENNEPIN COUNTY TAX RATE COMPARISON

IN A 2005 COMPARISON OF 15 COMMUNITIES IN HENNEPIN COUNTY WITH MORE THAN 20,000 residents, the average household cost of services in terms of property taxes



and property tax aids (when adjusted for fiscal disparities) showed Bloomington ranking lowest. The average household, including single-family dwellings, condominiums, townhomes and apartments in Bloomington paid \$36.30 per month in property taxes to the City.

STRONG HOME VALUE GROWTH CONTINUES



CITY SERVICES PROVIDE A STABLE foundation, helping home values grow. Median home value increased from \$214,400 in 2004 to \$231,200 in 2005, a 7.8 percent increase.

The City works hard to provide a broad range of quality municipal services at one of the lowest property tax costs per household in Hennepin County communities with more than 20,000 residents. Homeowners’ investment of approximately \$726 per year in City services has helped the average home value to increase more than \$14,700 per year for the past five years. A good investment in services is one of the factors that helps promote home equity appreciation.

DIVIDING UP YOUR 2006 TAX DOLLAR

YOUR TAX DOLLAR IS DIVIDED AMONG SEVERAL GOVERNMENTAL entities. As the graphic shows, for every dollar of taxes paid, 34 cents are for City services.

The actual amount of taxes owed is based on market value, tax law and the levy. The levy for all local governmental entities is spread across properties within each entity’s respective boundaries using tax capacity, a function of market value and property type. After applying educational aids, a Bloomington homeowner with a median-valued home pays \$2,484 in property taxes. Of that, \$726, or \$60.50 per month, goes to the City for services. The remaining \$1,758 goes to the School District, County and other taxing districts.



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

BLOOMINGTON’S CHARTER PROVIDES for a council-manager government. The City Council and Mayor, elected by the people, exercise legislative power and determine all City policies. Advisory boards and commissions gather information and advise the City Council on specific issues. Policy development and day-to-day operations are directed by the Council-appointed City Manager. The City Manager oversees the eight departments and the Technical Services Group that carry out the services, activities and policies of the City of Bloomington.



The City's Engineering Division, along with consultant URS Corporation, received the 2005 Honor Award from the American Consulting Engineers Council for planning, designing and constructing infrastructure improvements associated with the ongoing development of the Mall of America's expansion. Improvements included American Boulevard reconstruction and realignment, sanitary sewer extension, IKEA site development and Lindau Lane reconstruction.